

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 2284**

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By Representatives Balser of Newton and Harkins of Needham, petition of Ruth B. Balser and others for legislation to further regulate the installation of automatic sprinkler systems. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

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## **The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

Ruth B. Balser  
Lida E. Harkins  
William N. Brownsberger

Denise Provost  
Kay Khan  
Barbara A. L'Italien

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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### **AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERS.**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 26G of Chapter 148 of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking out the first paragraph, as so appearing, in its entirety, and  
4 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

5     Every building or structure, including any additions or major  
6 alterations thereto, which total, in the aggregate, more than seventy-  
7 five hundred gross square feet in floor area shall be protected  
8 throughout with an adequate system of automatic sprinklers in  
9 accordance with the provisions of the state building code. No such  
10 sprinkler system shall be required unless sufficient water and water  
11 pressure exists. For purposes of this section, the gross square feet of  
12 a building or structure shall include the sum total of the combined  
13 floor areas for all floor levels, basements, sub-basements and addi-  
14 tions, in the aggregate, measured from the outside walls, irrespective  
15 of the existence of interior fire resistive walls, floors and ceilings.  
16 This section shall not apply to buildings used for agricultural pur-  
17 poses as defined in Section one A of chapter one hundred and  
18 twenty-eight.

1        SECTION 2. The second paragraph of said Section 26G of said  
2 Chapter 148, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking  
3 out, in lines 16 and 17, in two places, the words “or additions” and  
4 inserting in place thereof the words:— or structures.

1        SECTION 3. The second paragraph of said Section 26G of said  
2 Chapter 148, as so appearing, is further amended by striking out the  
3 third sentence in its entirety.

1        SECTION 4. This act shall apply to construction of buildings,  
2 structures or additions or major modifications thereto which total in  
3 the aggregate more than seventy-five hundred gross square feet  
4 approved by permit after July 1, 2008.